

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 09384 301429Z
ACTION AF-10

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UNCLAS KINSHASA 9384

STATE FOR AF/P

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: NICARAGUA AND THE U.S.

1. "THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT; TODAY, AS IN THE PAST, DICTATORS LIKE NICARAGUA'S ANASTASIO SOMOZA, DEPEND ON THE GOODWILL OF WASHINGTON," CLAIMS JOURNALIST KOSO LETETA IN FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL KINSHASA DAILY ELIMA (AUGUST 29).
2. "NICARAGUA'S NATIONAL GUARD, WHICH IS THE COUNTRY'S LAST LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST AN INCREASINGLY ACTIVE OPPOSITION, WAS TRAINED BY THE AMERICANS," SAYS MR. KOSO WHO ADDS THAT IF THE "ARCHAIC" REGIME IN NICARAGUA BECOMES TOO SHAKY, THE U.S. MIGHT ABANDON SOMOZA IN THE SAME WAY THAT IT ABANDONED CUBA'S BATISTA. THIS EVENTUALITY, THE EDITORIAL CLAIMS, MIGHT HAVE THE SAME RESULTS SO THAT WASHINGTON HAS TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT IT FOLLOW ITS HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES AND THEREBY RISK HAVING ANOTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRY GO COMMUNIST.
3. COMMENTARY ASSERTS THAT "LATIN AMERICA, THE FIRST AREA OF THE WORLD TO BE CONQUERED BY AMERICAN IMPERIALISM, COULD NEVERTHELESS BE THE FIRST REAL EXAMPLE OF JIMMY CARTER'S WILLINGNESS TO CHANGE HIS POLICY. THERE ARE SEVERAL SIGNS THAT INDICATE THAT THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT THE AMERICAN

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PRESIDENT WANTS TO DO," SAYS COMMENTARY WHICH CONTINUES, "THREE MONTHS AGO PRESIDENT CARTER'S U.N. AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS ABLE TO CONGRATULATE THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORT THAT HAD JUST SUCCEEDED IN PEACEFULLY RESTORING DEMOCRACY TO A COUNTRY, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, WHERE IN 1968 20,000 MARINES HAD BEEN SENT TO DEFEND A DICTATOR."

4. EDITORIAL CHARGES THAT SOMOZA IS TURNING TO THE U.S. BECAUSE
HE UNDERSTANDS HIS FATE DEPENDS ON WASHINGTON. ARTICLE
CONCLUDES WITH A WARNING TO WASHINGTON NOT TO FORGET THAT THE
SOMOZA FAMILY HAS BEEN RULING NICARGUA FOR 40 YEARS AND
THAT NICARAGUANS, WHO ARE GROWING MORE AND MORE RESTLESS,
"FEEL LET DOWN" BY THE SOMOZA REGIME. ITEM.
DUMAS

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